## **Claims**

1. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound of the formula

$$Ar^{1} = N N - Y^{3}$$

$$(I),$$

$$Ar^{1} = N N - Y^{1} - N N = Ar^{2}$$

$$N = N N - Y^{1} - N N = Ar^{2}$$

$$(II),$$

Y<sup>1</sup> is a divalent linking group, and

Y<sup>3</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>alkyl, especially C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which can optionally be substituted, especially C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>aryl, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>26</sub>heteroaryl, which can optionally be substituted,

and 
$$Ar^2$$
  $N$  are independently of each other a group of formula  $Ar^2$   $Ar^2$ 

wherein

A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup> are independently of each other H, halogen, especially fluorine, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophonyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O- [[,]] or -NR<sup>25</sup>-; [[,]] -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkylthio, -PR<sup>32</sup>R<sup>32</sup>,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophonyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ haloalkyl;

 $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G, fluorine,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ haloalkyl;

C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, which is substituted by G, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or -CO-R<sup>28</sup>,

or

A<sup>22</sup> and A<sup>23</sup> or A<sup>11</sup> and A<sup>23</sup> are a group

$$A^{31}$$
 $A^{32}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{33}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{36}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 

or

two groups A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup>, which are neighbouring to each other, are a

A<sup>31</sup>

$$A^{32}$$
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{34}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{35}$ 
 $A^{36}$ 
 $A^{36}$ 

wherein

 $A^{31}$ ,  $A^{32}$ ,  $A^{33}$ ,  $A^{34}$ ,  $A^{35}$  and  $A^{36}$  are independently of each other H, halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O- [[,]] or -NR $^{25}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$  [[,]]  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ 4aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ 4aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl, which is substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or -CO- $R^{28}$  [[,]]  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

wherein preferably at least one of the substituents A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup> is C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-

 $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ haloalkyl; or  $C_2$ - $C_{26}$ heteroaryl, especially thiophenyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, benzoxazolyl, or benzothiazolyl, which is substituted by fluorine,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or  $C_4$ - $C_2$ 4haloalkyl, or a group of formula

X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>71</sup>, X<sup>72</sup>, X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>74</sup>, X<sup>75</sup>, X<sup>76</sup>, X<sup>77</sup>, X<sup>80</sup>, X<sup>81</sup>, X<sup>82</sup>, X<sup>83</sup>, X<sup>84</sup>, X<sup>85</sup>, X<sup>86</sup>, and X<sup>87</sup> are independently of each other E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, G<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-G<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O-, or -NR<sup>25</sup>, ]-NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -PR<sup>32</sup>, R<sup>32</sup>, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl; C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>26</sub>heteroaryl which is substituted by G, fluorine, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>42</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>44</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl; C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>44</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl; C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, which is substituted by G, or -CO-R<sup>28</sup>, or two groups X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>71</sup>, X<sup>72</sup>, X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>74</sup>, X<sup>75</sup>, X

$$A^{90}$$
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{97}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 

neighbouring to each other, are a group-

 $A^{93}$ ,  $A^{94}$ ,  $A^{95}$ ,  $A^{96}$  and  $A^{97}$  are independently of each other H, halogen, especially fluorine, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-,  $C_7$ - $C_$ 

E<sup>2</sup>-is-CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>-, especially-CX<sup>68</sup>X<sup>69</sup>-,

 $E^{2'}$ -is -SiR<sup>30</sup>R<sup>31</sup>-; -POR<sup>32</sup>-; especially -S-, -O-, or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-, wherein R<sup>25'</sup> is -C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, or -C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>40</sub>aryl,

X<sup>68</sup>, X<sup>69</sup>, X<sup>78</sup>, X<sup>78</sup>, X<sup>88</sup> and X<sup>89</sup> are independently of each other C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>26</sub>heteroaryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, or X<sup>78</sup>-and X<sup>79</sup>, and/or X<sup>88</sup> and X<sup>89</sup> form a ring, especially a five- or six-membered ring, or

X<sup>68</sup> and X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>69</sup> and X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>77</sup> and X<sup>78</sup> and/or X<sup>84</sup> and X<sup>89</sup> are a group

D is -CO-; -COO-; -S-; -SO-; -SO<sub>2</sub>-; -O-; -NR<sup>25</sup>-; -SiR<sup>30</sup>R<sup>31</sup>-; -POR<sup>32</sup>-; -CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>-; or -C $\equiv$ C-; and

E is -OR<sup>29</sup>; -SR<sup>29</sup>; -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -COR<sup>28</sup>; -COOR<sup>27</sup>; -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -CN; -OCOOR<sup>27</sup>; or halogen;

G is E, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, wherein

R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered ring, in particular

 $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  are independently of each other H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy;  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl; or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl which is interrupted by -O-,

 $R^{29}$  is H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by -O-,

 $R^{30}$  and  $R^{31}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, or  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and

R<sup>32</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl [[,]] which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl.

2. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the substituents A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup>, especially A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>21</sup>-

$$X^{41}$$
 $X^{42}$ 
 $X^{43}$ 
 $X^{45}$ 
 $X^{44}$ 
 $X^{48}$ 
 $X^{49}$ 
 $X^{49}$ 
 $X^{50}$ 
 $X^{51}$ 
 $X^{52}$ 
 $X^{52}$ 

and/or A<sup>23</sup>, are is a group of formula

wherein  $X^{41}$ ,  $X^{42}$ ,  $X^{43}$ ,  $X^{44}$ ,  $X^{45}$ ,  $X^{46}$ ,  $X^{47}$ ,  $X^{48}$ ,  $X^{49}$ ,  $X^{50}$ ,  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{54}$ ,  $X^{55}$ ,  $X^{56}$ ,  $X^{57}$ ,  $X^{58}$ ,  $X^{59}$ ,  $X^{60}$ ,  $X^{61}$ ,  $X^{62}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$ ,  $X^{66}$  and  $X^{67}$  are independently of each other H, fluorine, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenyl, which is optionally substituted by E, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, which is optionally substituted by G, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, which is optionally substituted by G, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryloxy, which is optionally substituted by G, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryloxy, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>heteroaryl which is substituted by G, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aralkyl, which is optionally substituted by G, or

$$X^{43}$$
,  $X^{65}$  or  $X^{52}$  are a group of formula

or

two groups X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup>, which are neighbouring to each other, are a group

$$A^{90}$$
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{95}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{97}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 
 $A^{93}$ 
 $A^{94}$ 
 $A^{95}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
and  $A^{97}$  are

independently of each other H, halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially-pentafluorophenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O-, or -NR<sup>25</sup>-, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkoxy, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>heteroaryl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>heteroaryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, which is substituted by G, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy which is substituted by E, or -CO-R<sup>28</sup> . , wherein R<sup>25</sup>, R<sup>26</sup> and R<sup>28</sup>, D, E-and G are as defined in claim 2 and preferably at least one of the substituents X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup> is fluorine, NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl.

3. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the substituents A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup>, especially A<sup>12</sup> and/or-A<sup>23</sup> are is a group of formula

 $X^{68}$ ,  $X^{69}$ ,  $X^{78}$ ,  $X^{79}$ ,  $X^{88}$  and  $X^{89}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{42}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms,

 $X^{70}$ ,  $X^{71}$ ,  $X^{72}$ ,  $X^{73}$ ,  $X^{74}$ ,  $X^{75}$ ,  $X^{76}$ ,  $X^{77}$ ,  $X^{80}$ ,  $X^{81}$ ,  $X^{82}$ ,  $X^{83}$ ,  $X^{84}$ ,  $X^{85}$ ,  $X^{86}$  and  $X^{87}$  are independently of each other H, CN,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>, wherein

 $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and  $R^{27}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or

R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered ring, in particular-

 $E^2 E^{2'}$  is -S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-, wherein R<sup>25'</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl.

4. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein Y<sup>3</sup> is a group of

$$R^{70}$$
  $R^{68}$   $R^{69}$   $R^{73}$   $R^{74}$   $R^{71}$   $R^{72}$   $R^{76}$   $R^{75}$  , or

, wherein

 $R^{41}$ ,  $R^{42}$ ,  $R^{43}$ ,  $R^{44}$ ,  $R^{45}$ ,  $R^{46}$ ,  $R^{47}$ ,  $R^{48}$ ,  $R^{49}$ ,  $R^{50}$ ,  $R^{51}$ ,  $R^{52}$ ,  $R^{53}$ ,  $R^{54}$ ,  $R^{55}$ ,  $R^{56}$ ,  $R^{57}$ ,  $R^{58}$ ,  $R^{59}$ ,  $R^{60}$ ,  $R^{61}$ ,  $R^{62}$ ,  $R^{63}$ ,  $R^{64}$ ,  $R^{65}$ ,  $R^{66}$ ,  $R^{67}$ ,  $R^{70}$ ,  $R^{71}$ ,  $R^{72}$ ,  $R^{73}$ ,  $R^{74}$ ,  $R^{75}$ ,  $R^{76}$ ,  $R^{77}$ ,  $R^{80}$ ,  $R^{81}$ ,  $R^{82}$ ,  $R^{83}$ ,  $R^{84}$ ,  $R^{85}$ ,  $R^{86}$ , and  $R^{87}$  are independently of each other H, fluorine,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, which is optionally substituted by E and/or

interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl, which is optionally substituted by E,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl, which is optionally substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is optionally substituted by G,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryloxy, which is optionally substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ arylalkoxy, which is optionally substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ arylalkoxy, which is optionally substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl which is substituted by G, or  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl, which is optionally substituted by G,

or

R<sup>43</sup>, R<sup>65</sup> or R<sup>52</sup> are a group of formula

or

two groups R<sup>41</sup>, R<sup>42</sup>, R<sup>43</sup>, R<sup>44</sup>, R<sup>45</sup>, R<sup>46</sup>, R<sup>47</sup>, R<sup>48</sup>, R<sup>49</sup>, R<sup>50</sup>, R<sup>51</sup>, R<sup>52</sup>, R<sup>53</sup>, R<sup>54</sup>, R<sup>55</sup>, R<sup>56</sup>, R<sup>57</sup>, R<sup>58</sup>, R<sup>59</sup>, R<sup>60</sup>, R<sup>61</sup>, R<sup>62</sup>, R<sup>63</sup>, R<sup>64</sup>, R<sup>65</sup>, R<sup>66</sup>, R<sup>67</sup>, R<sup>70</sup>, R<sup>71</sup>, R<sup>72</sup>, R<sup>73</sup>, R<sup>74</sup>, R<sup>75</sup>, R<sup>76</sup>, R<sup>77</sup>, R<sup>80</sup>, R<sup>81</sup>, R<sup>82</sup>, R<sup>83</sup>, R<sup>84</sup>, R<sup>85</sup>, R<sup>86</sup>, and R<sup>87</sup>, which are neighbouring to each other, are a group

$$A^{90}$$
  $A^{91}$   $A^{95}$   $A^{92}$   $A^{96}$   $A^{97}$   $A^{96}$  , or  $A^{91}$   $A^{97}$   $A^{90}$  , wherein  $A^{90}$ ,  $A^{91}$ ,  $A^{92}$ ,  $A^{93}$ ,  $A^{94}$ ,  $A^{95}$ ,  $A^{96}$  and  $A^{97}$  are

independently of each other H, halogen, especially fluorine,  $-NR^{25}R^{26}$ , hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O-[[,]] or  $-NR^{25}$ -[[,]];  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, which is substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkoxy,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or - $C_9$ - $C_8$ - $C_9$ - $C_$ 

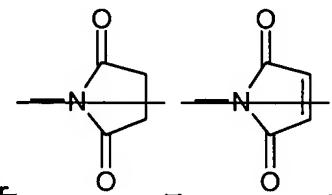
R<sup>68</sup>, R<sup>69</sup>, R<sup>78</sup>, R<sup>79</sup>, R<sup>88</sup> and R<sup>89</sup> are independently of each other C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>heteroaryl which is substituted by G, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, or C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, or

R<sup>68</sup> and R<sup>69</sup>, R<sup>78</sup> and R<sup>79</sup>, and/or R<sup>88</sup> and R<sup>89</sup> form a ring, especially a five- or six-membered ring, or

R<sup>68</sup> and R<sup>70</sup>, R<sup>69</sup> and R<sup>73</sup>, R<sup>77</sup> and R<sup>78</sup> and/or R<sup>84</sup> and R<sup>89</sup> are a group

D is -CO-; -COO-; -S-; -SO-; -SO<sub>2</sub>-; -O-; -NR<sup>25</sup>-; -SiR<sup>30</sup>R<sup>31</sup>-; -POR<sup>32</sup>-; -CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>-; or -C≡C-; and E is -OR<sup>29</sup>; -SR<sup>29</sup>; -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -COR<sup>28</sup>; -COOR<sup>27</sup>; -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -CN; -OCOOR<sup>27</sup>; or halogen;

G is E, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl; wherein



R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered ring, in particular

 $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  are independently of each other H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl; or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl; or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by -O-,

 $R^{29}$  is H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl[[,]] which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl[[,]] or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by -O-,

 $R^{30}$  and  $R^{31}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, or  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and

R<sup>32</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl[[,]] which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, or

R<sup>43</sup>, or R<sup>52</sup> are a group of formula

$$R^{70'}$$
 $E^{1'}$ 
 $R^{73'}$ 
 $R^{74'}$ 
 $R^{75'}$ 
 $R^{75'}$ 

 $R^{68'}$  and  $R^{69'}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms,

R<sup>70'</sup>, R<sup>71'</sup>, R<sup>72'</sup>, R<sup>73'</sup>, R<sup>74'</sup>, R<sup>75'</sup> and R<sup>76'</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25'</sup>R<sup>26'</sup>, -CONR<sup>25'</sup>R<sup>26'</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27'</sup>,

 $R^{25'}$  and  $R^{26'}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and  $R^{27'}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl; and

 $E^{1'}$  is -S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-, wherein R<sup>25'</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl.

## 5. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound to claim 1, wherein Y<sup>1</sup> is a group of formula

$$\begin{array}{c} R^{7} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{6} \\ R^{7} \\$$

## wherein

n1, n2, n3, n4, n5, n6, n7 and n8 are 1, 2, or 3, in particular 1,  $E^1$  is -S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-, wherein R<sup>25'</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl[[,]] or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl,

 $R^6$  and  $R^7$  are independently of each other H, halogen, especially fluorine, -NR $^{25}$ R $^{26}$ , hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR $^{25}$ -[[,]]  $: C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ -aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ -aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ -heteroaryl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ -heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ -alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ -alkynyl,  $C_1$ -

C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, which is substituted by G, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or -CO-R<sup>28</sup>,

 $R^{6'}$  and  $R^{7'}$  have the meaning of  $R^{6}$ , or together form a group  $A^{93}$ , wherein  $A^{90}$ ,  $A^{91}$ ,  $A^{92}$ , and  $A^{93}$  are independently of each other H, halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR<sup>25</sup>-[[,]] ;  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ 4aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_2$ 4aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl, which is substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkoxy which is substituted by E, or -CO- $R^{28}$ .

 $R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$  aryl, or  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,

 $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkynyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, or  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, or

R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> form a ring, especially a five- or six-membered ring,

 $R^{14}$  and  $R^{15}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl, or  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G,

D is -CO-, -COO-, -S-, -SO-, -SO<sub>2</sub>-, -O-, -NR<sup>25</sup>-, -SiR<sup>30</sup>R<sup>31</sup>-, -POR<sup>32</sup>-, -CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>-, or -C $\equiv$ C-, G is E[[,]] or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, and

E is -OR<sup>29</sup>, -SR<sup>29</sup>, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -COR<sup>28</sup>, -COOR<sup>27</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CN, -OCOOR<sup>27</sup>, or halogen, wherein

 $R^{23}$ ,  $R^{24}$ ,  $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by -O-, or

R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered ring, in particular-

 $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_5$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ -alkyl, or  $C_1$ -

 $R^{29}$  is H, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl[[,]] which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl which is interrupted by –O-,

 $R^{30}$  and  $R^{31}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, or  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl[[,]] which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and

R<sup>32</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl[[,]] which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl.

6. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound to claim 1, wherein the 2H-benzotriazole compound is a compound of formula

wherein A<sup>12</sup> or A<sup>23</sup> are a group of formula

wherein  $X^{41}$ ,  $X^{42}$ ,  $X^{43}$ ,  $X^{44}$ ,  $X^{45}$ ,  $X^{46}$ ,  $X^{47}$ ,  $X^{48}$ ,  $X^{49}$ ,  $X^{50}$ ,  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{54}$ ,  $X^{55}$ ,  $X^{56}$ ,  $X^{57}$ ,  $X^{58}$ ,  $X^{59}$ ,  $X^{60}$ ,  $X^{61}$ ,  $X^{62}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$ ,  $X^{66}$  and  $X^{67}$  are independently of each other are independently of each other. H, CN, fluorine,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4haloalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl, which can optionally be substituted by one[[,]] or more  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl[[,]] or  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkoxy groups;  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

or

two groups X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup>, which are neighbouring to each other, are a group

, or , wherein preferably at least one of the substituents X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup> is fluorine, NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl,

or A<sup>12</sup> and A<sup>23</sup> are a group of formula

 $X^{68}$ ,  $X^{69}$ ,  $X^{78}$ ,  $X^{79}$ ,  $X^{88}$  and  $X^{89}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_{4-}$  $C_{42}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms,

X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>71</sup>, X<sup>72</sup>, X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>74</sup>, X<sup>75</sup>, X<sup>76</sup>, X<sup>77</sup>, X<sup>80</sup>, X<sup>81</sup>, X<sup>82</sup>, X<sup>83</sup>, X<sup>84</sup>, X<sup>85</sup>, X<sup>86</sup> and X<sup>87</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl[[,]] which can optionally be substituted by one[[,]] or more C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl[[,]] or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkoxy groups; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

$$C_2$$
- $C_{10}$ heteroaryl, especially a group of formula , or , or  $A^{22}$  and  $A^{23}$  or  $A^{11}$  and  $A^{23}$  are a group of formula , or ,

A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup>, and A<sup>18</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially-pentafluorophenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>heteroaryl, wherein R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> are independently of each other H, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aralkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, R<sup>27</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, and

Y<sup>3</sup> is a group of formula

$$R^{70}$$
 $E^{1}$ 
 $R^{73}$ 
 $R^{74}$ 
 $R^{72}$ 
 $R^{76}$ 
 $R^{75}$ 
 $R^{75}$ 

 $R^{41}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy[[,]] or -OC<sub>7</sub>- $C_{18}$ aralkyl,  $R^{42}$  is hydrogen[[,]] or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,

R<sup>43</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

$$R^{70}$$
  $R^{68}$   $R^{69}$   $R^{73}$   $R^{70}$   $E^{1}$   $R^{73}$   $R^{74}$   $R^{74}$   $R^{71}$   $R^{72}$   $R^{76}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$   $R^{75}$ 

$$Ph$$
  $Ph$  , or  $Ph$  , wherein

A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, and A<sup>14</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

 $E^{1}$  is -S-, -O-[[,]] or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-, wherein R<sup>25'</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl[[,]] or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl,

R<sup>110</sup> is H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>, or

R<sup>42</sup> and R<sup>43</sup> are a group of formula

R<sup>44</sup> is hydrogen, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl,

R<sup>45</sup> is hydrogen, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl,

R<sup>68</sup> and R<sup>69</sup> are independently of each other C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl<del>, especially C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, which can be</del> interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms,

R<sup>70</sup>, R<sup>71</sup>, R<sup>72</sup>, R<sup>73</sup>, R<sup>74</sup>, R<sup>75</sup>, R<sup>76</sup>, R<sup>90</sup>, R<sup>91</sup>, R<sup>92</sup>, and R<sup>93</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> are independently of each other H, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aralkyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, and R<sup>27</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl.

7. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein the 2Hbenzotriazole compound is a compound of formula

$$\begin{bmatrix} A^{42} & A^{41} & A^{56} & A^{58} \\ A^{43} & A^{44} & A^{57} & A^{58} \\ A^{59} & A^{57} & A^{58} \\ A^{59} & A^{57} & A^{58} \\ A^{59} & A^{54} & A^{54} \\ A^{60} & A^{57} & A^{58} \\ A^{60} & A^{57} & A^{58} \\ A^{60} & A^{60} & A^{64} \\ A^{60} & A^{60} & A^{64} \\ A^{60} & A^{64} & A^{64} \\$$

wherein A<sup>52</sup> and A<sup>43</sup> are a group of formula

or two groups X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup>, which are neighbouring to each other, are a group

, or , wherein preferably at least one of the substituents  $X^{41}$ ,  $X^{42}$ ,  $X^{43}$ ,  $X^{44}$ ,  $X^{45}$ ,  $X^{46}$ ,  $X^{47}$ ,  $X^{48}$ ,  $X^{49}$ ,  $X^{50}$ ,  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{54}$ ,  $X^{55}$ ,  $X^{56}$ ,  $X^{57}$ ,  $X^{58}$ ,  $X^{59}$ ,  $X^{60}$ ,  $X^{61}$ ,  $X^{62}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$ ,  $X^{66}$  and  $X^{67}$  is fluorine,  $NR^{25}R^{26}$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$  alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$  aralkyl,  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$  perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$  perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$  haloalkyl,

or A<sup>43</sup> or A<sup>52</sup> are a group of formula

 $X^{68}$ ,  $X^{69}$ ,  $X^{78}$ ,  $X^{79}$ ,  $X^{88}$  and  $X^{89}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{42}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms,

X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>71</sup>, X<sup>72</sup>, X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>74</sup>, X<sup>75</sup>, X<sup>76</sup>, X<sup>77</sup>, X<sup>80</sup>, X<sup>81</sup>, X<sup>82</sup>, X<sup>83</sup>, X<sup>84</sup>, X<sup>85</sup>, X<sup>86</sup> and X<sup>87</sup> are independently of each other H, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>,

 $E^{2} E^{2'}$  is -S-, -O-, or -NR<sup>25'</sup>-,

A<sup>41</sup>, A<sup>42</sup> and A<sup>44</sup> are independently of each other hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>heteroaryl,

A<sup>51</sup>, A<sup>53</sup>, A<sup>54</sup>, A<sup>55</sup>, A<sup>56</sup>, A<sup>57</sup>, A<sup>58</sup>, A<sup>59</sup> and A<sup>60</sup> are independently of each other H, fluorine, CN, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, or -COOR<sup>27</sup>, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>heteroaryl, wherein  $\mathbb{E}^{1}$ -is O<sub>7</sub>-S<sub>7</sub> or -NR<sup>25</sup>-,

 $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  are independently of each other H,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $R^{25}$ 

and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered ring, in particular

R<sup>27</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, and

Y<sup>1</sup> is a group of formula

wherein

 $R^6$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy[[,]] or -O- $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $R^7$  is H, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{42}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms, and

 $R^{25}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl[[,]] or  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl.

8. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein the 2H-benzotriazole is a compound of formula

$$A^{23} \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow A^{23} \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow A^{$$

wherein R<sup>102</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, especially C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, in particular or H,

wherein R<sup>100</sup> and R<sup>101</sup> are independently of each other H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, especially C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, very

especially tert-butyl, or

, wherein  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$  and  $X^{66}$  are independently of each other fluorine, C1-C24alkyl, especially C1-C12alkyl, very especially tertbutyl, C5-C12cycloalkyl, especially cyclohexyl, which can optionally be substituted by one[[,]] or two C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl groups, or 1-adamantyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, especially C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>42</sub>perfluoroalkyl, such as CF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, wherein R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> are C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>aryl, especially phenyl, which can be substituted by one[[,]] or two C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl groups, or

R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> together form a five or six membered heterocyclic ring, especially

(IVa), especially 
$$A^{12}$$
 (IVb), or  $A^{12}$  (IVc), wherein  $Y^3$  is as defined above, or is

wherein Y<sup>3</sup> is as defined above, or is

, wherein R<sup>25</sup> and R<sup>26</sup> are C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>aryl, especially phenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, which can optionally be substituted by one[[,]] or two C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkyl groups[[,]] or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkoxy groups, or

a compound of formula IVa, IVb, or IVc, wherein A<sup>12</sup> is

, and 
$$Y^3$$
 is is

a compound of formula

independently of each other a group of formula

a compound of formula la, lb, lc, or ld, especially , wherein  $A^{12}$  is H, a group

of formula , especially\_

or , wherein 
$$X^{43}$$
 is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl,  $Y^3$  is a group of formula

, wherein  $R^{70}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl., especially  $C_4$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy.

9. (currently amended) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 8, wherein the 2H-benzotriazole is a compound of formula

$$(IIc), \qquad (IId), \text{ especially} \qquad (IId), \text{ especially} \qquad (IIa), \text{ veryespecially or} \qquad (IIb), \qquad (II$$

wherein  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{42}$ alkyl, which can be interrupted by one or two oxygen atoms, and  $R^{25}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, especially  $C_4$ - $C_{42}$ alkyl.

10. (currently amended) An electroluminescent device, comprising a 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1. any of claims 1 to 9.

- 11. (original) The electroluminescent device according to claim 10, wherein the electroluminescent device comprises in this order
  - (a) an anode
  - (b) a hole injecting layer and/or a hole transporting layer
  - (c) a light-emitting layer
  - (d) optionally an electron transporting layer and
  - (e) a cathode.
- 12. (original) The electroluminescent device according to claim 11, wherein the 2H-benzotriazole compound forms the light-emitting layer.
- 13. (currently amended) Use of the 2H-benzotriazole compounds according to any of claims 1 to 9 for An electrophotographic photoreceptor [[s]], photoelectric converter[[s]], solar cell[[s]], image sensor[[s]] or [[,]] dye laser[[s]] and electroluminescent devices, comprising a 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1.
- 14. (new) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the substituents A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup> A<sup>21</sup>, A<sup>22</sup>, A<sup>23</sup>, A<sup>24</sup>, A<sup>11</sup>, A<sup>12</sup>, A<sup>13</sup>, A<sup>14</sup>, A<sup>15</sup>, A<sup>16</sup>, A<sup>17</sup> and A<sup>18</sup> is C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>aryl which is substituted by fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl; thiophenyl, pyrrolyl, furanyl, benzoxazolyl or benzothiazolyl which is substituted by fluorine, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroarylor C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl, or a group of formula

each other E and/or interrupted by D, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl,

 $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O- or -NR $^{25}$ -; -NR $^{25}$ R $^{26}$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkylthio, -PR $^{32}$  R $^{32}$ ,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4haloalkyl;  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 0heteroaryl which is substituted by G, fluorine,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4perfluoroalkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl, or  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4haloalkyl;  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 4alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_2$ 4alkynyl,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_2$ 4alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkyl, which is substituted by G,  $C_7$ - $C_2$ 5aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or - $C_7$ 8.

or

two groups X<sup>70</sup>, X<sup>71</sup>, X<sup>72</sup>, X<sup>73</sup>, X<sup>74</sup>, X<sup>75</sup>, X<sup>76</sup>, X<sup>77</sup>, X<sup>80</sup>, X<sup>81</sup>, X<sup>82</sup>, X<sup>83</sup>, X<sup>84</sup>, X<sup>85</sup>, X<sup>86</sup>, and X<sup>87</sup>, which are

$$A^{90}$$
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{90}$ 
 $A^{94}$ 
 $A^{95}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{97}$ 
 $A^{96}$ 
, or  $A^{91}$ 
, wherein

neighbouring to each other, are a group

 $A^{90}$ ,  $A^{91}$ ,  $A^{92}$ ,  $A^{93}$ ,  $A^{94}$ ,  $A^{95}$ ,  $A^{96}$  and  $A^{97}$  are independently of each other H, halogen, hydroxy,  $C_{1}$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_{1}$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_{1}$ - $C_{24}$ perfluoroalkyl,  $C_{6}$ - $C_{14}$ perfluoroaryl,  $C_{5}$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_{5}$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is substituted by G and/or interrupted by S-, -O- or -NR<sup>25</sup>-;  $C_{5}$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy,  $C_{5}$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkoxy which is substituted by G,  $C_{6}$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_{6}$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_{2}$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl,  $C_{2}$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_{2}$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_{2}$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1}$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_{7}$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl,  $C_{7}$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, which is substituted by G,  $C_{7}$ - $C_{25}$ aralkoxy,  $C_{7}$ - $C_{25}$ aralkoxy which is substituted by G, or -CO-R<sup>28</sup>,  $E^{2}$  is -CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>- or -CX<sup>68</sup>X<sup>69</sup>-.

 $E^{2'}$  is  $-SiR^{30}R^{31}$ -;  $-POR^{32}$ -; -S-, -O-, or  $-NR^{25'}$ -, wherein  $R^{25'}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl,  $X^{68}$ ,  $X^{69}$ ,  $X^{78}$ ,  $X^{79}$ ,  $X^{88}$  and  $X^{89}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$  alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl,  $C_6$ - $C_{24}$ aryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ heteroaryl which is substituted by G,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkoxy which is substituted by E and/or interrupted by D, or  $C_7$ - $C_{25}$ aralkyl, or  $X^{78}$  and  $X^{79}$ , and/or  $X^{88}$  and  $X^{89}$  form a ring, or

$$A^{90}$$
 $A^{91}$ 
 $A^{92}$ 

 $X^{68}$  and  $X^{70}$ ,  $X^{69}$  and  $X^{73}$ ,  $X^{77}$  and  $X^{78}$  and/or  $X^{84}$  and  $X^{89}$  are a group

D is -CO-; -COO-; -S-; -SO-; -SO<sub>2</sub>-; -O-; -NR<sup>25</sup>-; -SiR<sup>30</sup>R<sup>31</sup>-; -POR<sup>32</sup>-; -CR<sup>23</sup>=CR<sup>24</sup>-; or -C $\equiv$ C-; and E is -OR<sup>29</sup>; -SR<sup>29</sup>; -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -COR<sup>28</sup>; -COOR<sup>27</sup>; -CONR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>; -CN; -OCOOR<sup>27</sup>; or halogen; G is E, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, wherein

 $R^{25}$  and  $R^{26}$  together form a five or six membered ring,  $R^{27}$  and  $R^{28}$  are independently of each other H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by  $-O_7$ .

 $R^{29}$  is H;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl;  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, or  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl which is interrupted by -O-,

 $R^{30}$  and  $R^{31}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, or  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl, which is substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_{24}$ alkyl, and

R<sup>32</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl, or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>aryl which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl.

- 15. (new) A 2H-benzotriazole compound according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the substituents  $X^{41}$ ,  $X^{42}$ ,  $X^{43}$ ,  $X^{44}$ ,  $X^{45}$ ,  $X^{46}$ ,  $X^{47}$ ,  $X^{48}$ ,  $X^{49}$ ,  $X^{50}$ ,  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{54}$ ,  $X^{55}$ ,  $X^{56}$ ,  $X^{57}$ ,  $X^{58}$ ,  $X^{59}$ ,  $X^{60}$ ,  $X^{61}$ ,  $X^{62}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$ ,  $X^{66}$  and  $X^{67}$  is fluorine, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl.
- 16. (new) A 2H-benzotriazole compound to claim 5, wherein Y<sup>1</sup> is a group of formula

17. (new) A 2H-benzotriazole compound to claim 6, wherein at least one of the substituents X<sup>41</sup>, X<sup>42</sup>, X<sup>43</sup>, X<sup>44</sup>, X<sup>45</sup>, X<sup>46</sup>, X<sup>47</sup>, X<sup>48</sup>, X<sup>49</sup>, X<sup>50</sup>, X<sup>51</sup>, X<sup>52</sup>, X<sup>53</sup>, X<sup>54</sup>, X<sup>55</sup>, X<sup>56</sup>, X<sup>57</sup>, X<sup>58</sup>, X<sup>59</sup>, X<sup>60</sup>, X<sup>61</sup>, X<sup>62</sup>, X<sup>63</sup>, X<sup>64</sup>, X<sup>65</sup>, X<sup>66</sup> and X<sup>67</sup> is fluorine, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl,

and when  $A^{21}$ ,  $A^{22}$  or  $A^{24}$  is  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$ heteroaryl, said  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$ heteroaryl is a group of formula

$$N$$
 or  $N$ 

18. **(new)** A 2H-benzotriazole compound to claim 7, wherein at least one of the substituents  $X^{41}$ ,  $X^{42}$ ,  $X^{43}$ ,  $X^{44}$ ,  $X^{45}$ ,  $X^{46}$ ,  $X^{47}$ ,  $X^{48}$ ,  $X^{49}$ ,  $X^{50}$ ,  $X^{51}$ ,  $X^{52}$ ,  $X^{53}$ ,  $X^{54}$ ,  $X^{55}$ ,  $X^{56}$ ,  $X^{57}$ ,  $X^{58}$ ,  $X^{59}$ ,  $X^{60}$ ,  $X^{61}$ ,  $X^{62}$ ,  $X^{63}$ ,  $X^{64}$ ,  $X^{65}$ ,  $X^{66}$  and  $X^{67}$  is fluorine, -NR<sup>25</sup>R<sup>26</sup>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>perfluoroalkyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>perfluoroaryl, especially pentafluorophenyl, or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>haloalkyl,

and when  $A^{21}$ ,  $A^{22}$  or  $A^{24}$  is  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$ heteroaryl, said  $C_2$ - $C_{10}$ heteroaryl is a group of formula

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$
 or  $\frac{N}{\sqrt{E^1}}$